

Art Unit: 3643

III. Remarks

Claims 1, 3-15 and 17 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 8, 9, 10, and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Marsters. Claims 1, 3, 4, 13-15 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Thayer. Claims 5-7 and 11 were objected to. Claims 1 and 15 have been amended. Claim 5 has been cancelled. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In response to applicant's prior arguments, the examiner has stated that Marsters and Thayer disclose "parachutes" because the devices shown in those references provide drag. As previously stated, applicant disagrees. The term parachute has a common understanding. Neither Marsters nor Thayer discloses a parachute attached to fishing line as required by the claims.

Nevertheless, in order to expedite prosecution of this application, applicant has amended claims 1 and 15 to explicitly describe the characteristics of a parachute. The language from claim 5 relating to the nature of the parachute has been added to claims 1 and 15. Thus, claim 1 is claim 5 in independent form. Claim 5 was only objected to and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, claim 1 is in condition for allowance. Claims 3-14 depend from claim 1 and are allowable for at least the same reasons.

Claim 15 recites a method for providing resistance for swimming fish. The claim recites the steps of engaging a hook and deploying a parachute. As amended, claim 15 further recites that the parachute which is deployed includes a plurality of suspension lines and a connector to the fishing line. Neither Marsters nor Thayer discloses deployment of such a parachute. Therefore, claim 15 is in condition for allowance. Claim 17 depends from claim 15 and is allowable for at least the same reasons.

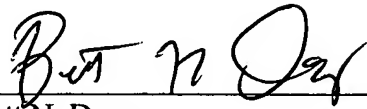
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants believe that this application is in condition for allowance. If the examiner has any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, he is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney so that prosecution of this application can be expedited.

Serial No.: 10/798,832

Attorney Docket No. C001-101

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brett N. Dorny", is written over a horizontal line.

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Date: July 22, 2005

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